

**PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT 1**

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE NORTH PLATTE NE  
1012 AM CDT THU NOV 1 2007

...WINTER WEATHER AWARENESS DAY ACROSS NEBRASKA...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE...IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STATE OF NEBRASKA...HAS DECLARED THURSDAY NOVEMBER 1ST AS WINTER WEATHER AWARENESS DAY. THIS DAY PRESENTS THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE WINTER WEATHER INFORMATION AND POTENTIALLY LIFE SAVING SAFETY TIPS TO THE PUBLIC. THIS IS THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF THREE PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENTS.

THERE ARE A NUMBER OF WAYS THAT WINTER STORMS CAN IMPACT A REGION AND ITS RESIDENTS. WINTER STORM EFFECTS CAN CAUSE A MINOR INCONVENIENCE OR PARALYZE AN ENTIRE CITY. THESE STORMS CAN CAUSE MANY HAZARDS...PEOPLE COULD BE IN AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT DRIVING ON ICY ROADS...HAVE A HEART ATTACK WHILE SHOVELING SNOW...OR SUFFER FROSTBITE AND HYPOTHERMIA FROM THE EXTREME COLD. STRONG WINDS...EXTREME COLD...HEAVY SNOW...AND ICE FROM THESE STORMS CAN KNOCK DOWN TREES AND UTILITY POLES...ISOLATE RURAL HOMES AND FARMS...AND CAUSE DAMAGE TO BUILDINGS AND HOMES.

BEFORE WINTER STORMS STRIKE...IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE YOU AND YOUR FAMILY PREPARED FOR THE WINTER SEASON. WHEN PREPARING YOUR HOME...THINK ABOUT THE POTENTIAL LOSS OF HEAT...POWER...TELEPHONE SERVICE...AND THE SHORTAGE OF SUPPLIES IN CASE A STORM LASTS FOR MORE THAN ONE DAY.

MAKE SURE TO HAVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS AVAILABLE.

- FIRST AID SUPPLIES
- FLASHLIGHT...RADIO...AND EXTRA BATTERIES
- EXTRA WATER AND HIGH CALORIE...NON PERISHABLE FOODS
- EXTRA MEDICINE AND SUPPLIES TO CARE FOR INFANTS AND THE ELDERLY
- EMERGENCY HEATING SOURCE SUCH AS A FIREPLACE...WOOD STOVE...OR SPACE HEATER
- HEATING FUEL...AS FUEL CARRIERS MAY NOT BE ABLE TO REACH YOU FOR DAYS
- FIRE EXTINGUISHER AND SMOKE DETECTOR

IF YOU ARE CAUGHT INSIDE DURING A WINTER STORM...MAKE SURE TO STAY INSIDE. IF NO HEAT IS AVAILABLE...CLOSE OFF ROOMS WHICH ARE NOT NEEDED AND STUFF TOWELS OR RAGS IN CRACKS UNDER DOORS. DURING THE NIGHT COVER THE WINDOWS. MAKE SURE TO EAT AND DRINK...FOOD PROVIDES THE BODY WITH ENERGY TO PRODUCE HEAT...AND IT IS IMPORTANT TO STAY HYDRATED. WEAR LAYERS OF LOOSE FITTING...LIGHTWEIGHT...AND WARM CLOTHING.

IF YOU ARE CAUGHT OUTSIDE DURING A WINTER STORM...TRY TO FIND SHELTER. TRY TO STAY DRY AND COVER ALL EXPOSED BODY PARTS. IF NO SHELTER IS AVAILABLE...MAKE A WIND BREAK OR SNOW CAVE FOR PROTECTION FROM THE WIND. BUILD A FIRE FOR HEAT AND TO ATTRACT ATTENTION. MELT SNOW FOR DRINKING WATER...DO NOT EAT SNOW AS IT WILL LOWER YOUR BODY TEMPERATURE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT WINTER WEATHER AWARENESS DAY...VISIT  
[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NORTHPLATTE](http://www.weather.gov/northplatte). LOOK UNDER THE TOP NEWS OF THE DAY.

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